

# Torii Teller

Volume 46 Number 9

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

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## This won't hurt a bit

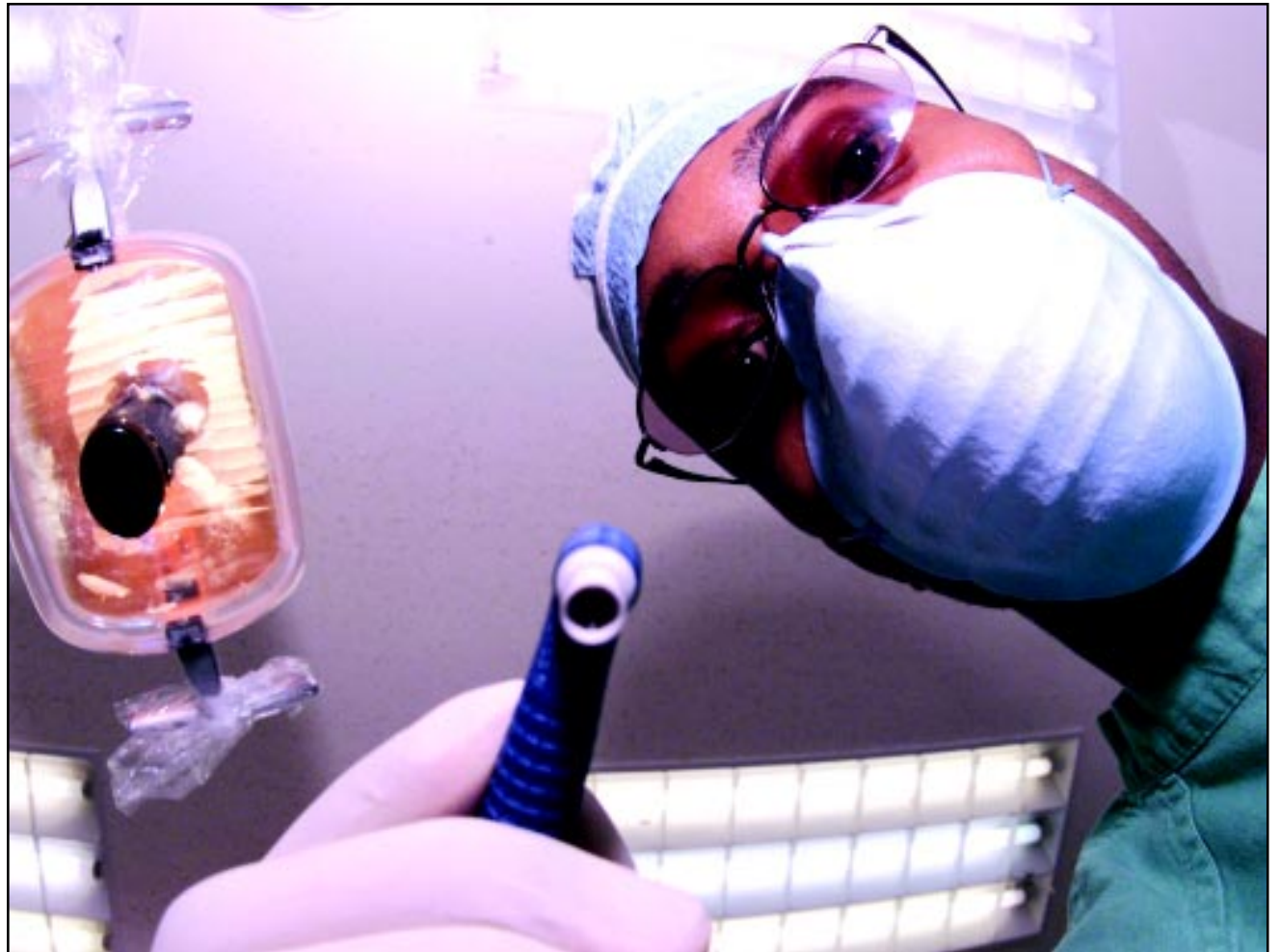


photo by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson

Seaman Apprentice Brian Leggin, dental technician, performs a routine dental cleaning on Feb. 22. The 11th Dental Company Detachment offers a variety of services from simple fillings to orthodontics.

see **DENTAL** Page 6

## Exercise tests station

by Cpl. Ryan O'Hare  
Torii Teller Staff

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni will hold its annual Non-Combatant Evacuation operation exercise here Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The purpose of a NEO is to evaluate the air station's ability to respond to crisis management situations and conduct the evacuation of American civilians.

"It is very important that we practice for such an emergency," said Gunnery Sgt. Rose Cole, Airfield Operations chief. "If something were to happen, we need to be prepared to evacuate as quick as possible."

This year's simulated disaster is an earthquake

registering 7.6 on the Richter scale. The air station, located less than 25 miles from the epicenter, receives large-scale destructive damage.

Along with major structural damage, the runway is rendered unusable to fixed wing aircraft. The air station is also dealing with the loss of power, water, sewage and telephone communication, adding to the chaos of the situation.

"We try to create events that could really happen," said Cole. "We have to think of every little problem now, so we are prepared for it in the future."

"We've never had a scenario quite like this one," said Capt. Walter Hibner, assistant Airfield Operations and Air Traffic Control officer.

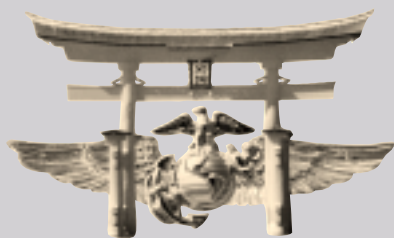
see **NEO** Page 4



photo by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson

**Lance Cpl. Patrick Thrower, a Marine Aircraft Logistics Squadron 12 technician, is processed during a recent NEO exercise.**

# Torii Teller



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All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building 360, Room 7, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

Is there an event you want covered for the *Torii Teller*? Do you have an opinion to be heard? Does your unit have anything newsworthy to report? If so, we want to hear from you, call 253-5344 or e-mail [olmsteadj@iwakuni.usmc.mil](mailto:olmsteadj@iwakuni.usmc.mil).

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# Things are swell

by Sgt. Michael Wiener  
Media Chief

If you were not at the recent Town Hall meeting, you missed out.

You missed out on people whining, crying, complaining and a general beat down of the very people who make our lives as good as they are. You would think that we, the air station community, are living impoverished lives in a third world country.

Guess what. We're not.

We're very lucky to have all that we have here. Take a look at the headlines around the world. Do a little reading about people who are truly in dire straits, then complain about the commissary not carrying the brand of cracker you

like or your Internet being a little slow.

People today are so quick to point out the faults of others, we miss all the good they do. We miss all the blessings in our lives. I don't think anyone on the air station worries about putting three meals on the table or where they'll be sleeping for the night.

Here's a thought: many of the department heads, those running the station, are Marines and Sailors. Don't you think they are doing their best to make life better for their fellow Marines and Sailors? Or do you think they live to make life miserable for the rest of us?

Here's a little insight: Lt. Col. Alexander, the MCCS director, does not get a raise, Christmas bonus, a company sponsored trip to the Bahamas or other perks if MCCS makes a profit. He doesn't

see *LIFE* Page 4

# Discount benefit 'bites the dust'

by Robert White, USMC (Ret.)  
Letter to the Editor

Here we go again. As a tired, not retired Marine since 1994, I have observed the constant gradual erosion of many perks or benefits I often enjoyed as a result of my service to our country for twenty plus years. I feel like listening to the rock group *Queen* sing, "Another One Bites the Dust," and they would be singing about the cessation of discount coupons at the barbershop, cleaners and other areas.

The rationale for discontinuing these coupons was those areas that are supposed to generate revenue are incurring losses due solely to those \$2

discount coupons. I find that hard to believe. If these facilities are not productive because of a \$2 coupon, I think the Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline number should be added to my speed dialer. Could revenue being lost be due solely to giving this \$2 coupon to those that want it? That means I now have to pay the entire \$6 for my haircut.

I realize I am a member of that select group of the "hair challenged," meaning I don't have much hair left, but I still get those few cut on a regular basis. When you compare the amount of hair I have to some other lad with that full-bodied look, I'm getting ripped off anyway.

Perhaps with the loss of coupons, we could get

see *COUPONS* Page 4

# Barber shop gets small talk free award

by Robert Christian  
Letter to the Editor

I know what you are thinking, what is a "small talk free award?"

It's small talk, otherwise known as "barber shop talk," a service that you want while getting a hair cut, or like me, try to avoid. I personally find most barber shoptalk annoying, superficial and done with the intent to obtain an increased tip.

Of course, not everyone dislikes barber shoptalk. If you grew up watching "*The Andy Griffith Show*" on TV, you saw barber shoptalk as the highlight of the day for the town's male senior citizens.

Still confused? The following is an example of what I'm talking about.

"Where you from?"

"Chicago."

"How about da Bears?"

"They lost last week."

"But they beat the point spread."

"I don't bet on games."

"Smart man, I bet an Ivy League school graduate?"

"No."

Well there is no barber talk at Iwakuni. You are greeted with a smile and what you will get is prompt, professional, courtesy service at a reasonable price. The price is still \$6 here and when you compare this price to the local community, between 1,300 and 2,500 yen, then you realize that you are still getting a bargain. The thing that I like the best, besides no small talk, is the massage. This is a Japanese custom that they automatically provide even though they are charging standard American prices.

I think that the Iwakuni Barber Shop has been unfairly criticized a lot lately due to the "vanishing coupon issue." As the director of MCCS has pointed out, this was a command business decision, and not a barber shop idea. I value prompt, courteous, professional service at a reasonable price, with a massage instead of small talk, so I will continue to tip the barber shop personnel.



# Internet abuse jeopardizes computer use

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay  
Torii Teller Staff

The use of computers in the base library is subject to regulations, and the abuse of a few patrons may put further use in jeopardy for the entire air station.

The library offers 17 computers with free Internet access for service and family members to use for e-mail, research and academic purposes.

"Unfortunately, along with the legitimate use of the library computers, there is also the ability to access pornographic and other prohibited sites," said Jennifer Edgington, Lifelong Learning Branch officer.

According to Edgington, the library staff recently detected an increase in visits to pornographic sites.

Each patron must sign a library Internet agreement which states that he or she will not access pornographic and other prohibited sites, including those promoting hate and discrimination.

"The computers are government owned and fall under regulations similar to office computers on this issue," said Edgington.

Violators of the library's computer policy are subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

According to Edgington, the library has taken certain steps to curtail the inappropriate use of library computers, including increased monitoring of customers using computers by the library staff, increased monitoring from security cameras and the placement of signs at each computer stating that accessing pro-

hibited sites is punishable by the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

There will be zero tolerance for individuals caught intentionally accessing pornographic sites.

"All offenders will be banned from using library computers for their length of stay in Iwakuni," said Edgington.

Additionally, all offenders will be reported to their units, and family members will be reported to their sponsor and unit command.

"If these measures do not deter customers from visiting prohibited sites, the library will have to take other measures," said Edgington.

Those measures may include reducing the number of computers for personal use and reducing the hours that computers are available for use.

"Customers need to be aware of the consequences of using library

computers to view pornographic web sites and how their actions may impact the air station community's use of the library's computers," said Edgington.

The library averages nearly 200 computer patrons per day, who use the computers for about 1,300 hours a week.

"Before I bought my own computer, the computers at the library were my main means of keeping in touch with family and friends back home," said Petty Officer 1st class Roger Banks, maintenance leading petty officer, American Forces Network. "It's too bad a small handful of thoughtless people are abusing the privileges the library offers."

"This is a case of a few bad apples spoiling the entire bushel," said Edgington.

## Segregation problems pile up

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay  
Torii Teller Staff

The station's trash contractor will no longer pick up trash that's not properly segregated into combustible and noncombustible trash receptacles from housing areas.

Segregating trash is an air station order, and all service members and their families are required to comply with the order. Moreover, the trash is starting to pile up.

"If the housing residents don't segregate their trash, it's just going to keep piling up and up," said Earl Clayborne, Recycling Center material handler. "The Japanese contractor is no longer picking up non-segregated trash, so the problem is going to get worse if residents don't start doing what they're supposed to."

Trash must be segregated into combustible and noncombustible containers.

Combustible items are those that can be burned such as paper, food waste, wood and clothing. Noncombustible items are trash such as glass, metal, plastics and styrofoam.

"I can't understand why people aren't segregating their trash," said Ryan Leming, Recycling Center employee. "I guess they can't figure out what burns and what doesn't burn. I think it just comes down to a lack of understanding, but it's hurting everyone who lives here."

According to Jeff Piatt, Solid Waste and Recycling manager, individuals who don't follow the proper disposal procedures are hurting everyone, since the money spent on correcting improper trash disposal otherwise could be diverted to qual-

ity of life improvements.

The air station trash bill now stands in the \$800,000 per year range.

"We could eventually cut our costs by 40 percent if everyone does their part," said Navy Lt. William Prout, assistant Facilities officer.

The trash segregation problem poses many concerns not limited to financial issues, but rather centers around health and just plain aesthetics.

"All the trash piling up looks nasty," said Clayborne. "This is a great place to live, but it won't be if there is trash laying around everywhere."

According to Clayborne, all residents need to do is throw combustibles in cans marked combustible and non-combustibles in cans marked noncombustible.

"We've made it so easy for the residents to segregate their trash, but people still aren't complying," said Clayborne.

According to Prout, the trash issue concerns everyone.

"We as a community need to concentrate our efforts on proper waste disposal and recycling in order to dramatically reduce disposal costs and better protect the health and safety of all personnel living aboard the air station," said Prout. "This is a quality of life issue."

According to Piatt, the entire air station needs to come together to fix the problem.

"Each of us needs to do our part to help make the system work better," said Piatt. "We all need to be on the same page on this one."

For more information on proper trash disposal and recycling, call the Recycling Center at 253-3039 or 253-3032.

## News Briefs

### Poster Contest

The Public Affairs Office is accepting Friendship Day Poster submissions for the 2001 poster contest until 4:30 p.m. today in Building 360. First place will be awarded \$200. Second place will receive \$100. The Friendship Day Committee has asked artists to include an aircraft theme in this year's submission. Call 253-5551.

### Tax Center Open

The air station Tax Center is open to assist air station personnel and residents in preparing and filing their federal income tax returns for the 2000 tax year. All services are free. The Tax Center is in Building 608 at the Station Judge Advocate's office. Call 253-6148.

### Lost and Found

The Provost Marshal's Office has many lost and found items such as wallets, credit cards, keys, camera and other miscellaneous items that need to be returned to their rightful owners. Call PMO at 253-3471.

### Appointments

Medical and Dental guidelines require that residents with appointments arrive 15 minutes early to complete necessary paperwork.

**NEO** from Page 1

"Because the runway is in-operational, we are really going to have to focus on other evacuation procedures. We are going to utilizing other means, besides the air station, to get the people to safety," he said.

According to Hibner, the exercise is two-fold. The first is for active duty personnel to prepare and familiarize themselves with the civilian evacuation process. The second is for civilians to understand what is needed from them, in order to evacuate a danger zone as quickly as possible.

"By participating in the exercise now, people

will be ahead of everybody else, because they will understand how the process works," said Hibner. "If you don't prepare now, your depart-

**"It is very important that we practice for such an emergency. If something were to happen, we need to be prepared to evacuate as quick as possible."**

**Gunnery Sgt. Rose Cole**

ture may be prolonged in a real catastrophe."

Because of the large scale of the exercise, many units will be participating in the administra-

tion, logistics and evacuation process. The chief processing center will be held at the Main Gym.

Once processing is completed, evacuees will be transported by shuttle to Penny Lake sports field to await the simulated evacuation. To accommodate the large number of people, a tent city, water purification station and field mess will also be constructed at the location.

Participants are asked to show up with their NEO packages properly filled out, and are even encouraged to bring their pets' paperwork as well.

"We are hoping for a big turnout," said Hibner. "By learning how the process works, you'll be ready to go in a moment's notice."

**LIFE** from Page 2

skim money off of concessions so he can cruise the air station streets in a Lamborghini. He and the rest of the MCCS personnel work for us.

If MCCS makes a profit, the money comes back to Iwakuni. Where else in the world can you go to a theater to see a free movie? Not in Okinawa where AAFES runs the show.

Here's a clue: nothing is easy. When we as a community wanted a Burger King, MCCS went out and got it. Yes, it took a little time, but believe it or not, not everything happens at the snap of the fingers. You can't wish for a Taco Bell today and have gorditas tomorrow. These things take time.

Can't find what you're looking for in the Exchange? There's this little thing called the Internet. You can buy anything from clothes to

buffalo skin carpets. The Exchange can only provide so much for the population we have. Talk to the buyers. Tell them what you want.

Complaining about less water pressure in your homes? That's about as asinine as complaining about recycling aluminum cans. The devices were installed to save money and water. Water is a precious resource that I'm sure you want your children and your children's children to have plenty of. If they don't, they die.

Extreme? Perhaps.

As family members, we're fortunate to have bathtubs, kitchens, our own washer and dryer hookups — be thankful. Maybe those living in the barracks should complain about not having such luxuries.

Speaking of family members, some of the complaints were about children. Are we as

adults so inferior to children, so in fear of them, or just not smart enough to correct them when they are doing something wrong?

If you see a child doing something wrong, correct the child instead of shaking your head, walking away and waiting with baited breath for the next "Town Gripe and Moan Meeting."

The Town Hall forum is a place to solve problems as a community, not to roast others and take cheap shots at station leaders. Perhaps at the next Townhall, we can mandate a no complaint rule and spend two hours giving thanks for what we have.

Is it hypocritical to complain about complaining? Maybe, but it's also hypocritical to complain about someone being hypocritical because they are complaining. I'll leave you with that gem ...

**COUPONS** from Page 2

haircuts pro-rated, so those of us who are "hair challenged," could get a break. I figure mine would cost about 75 cents.

With the loss of the coupons you don't have to be "Obi Wan Kanobi" to see the following things happen:

1. Barbers will see a decline in tips. Isn't it amazing that those who have absolutely nothing to do with the decision pay the price.

2. Marines will start sporting some funky looking hairstyles.

3. Marines will go longer between haircuts resulting in longer hair.

4. Marines will start cutting each other's hair resulting in number 2 happening.

5. Sailors will petition to bring "Zumwaltian" standards back into vogue. For you youngsters, he was the Chief of Naval Operations who allowed Sailors to wear longer hair and beards.

6. Vitamin A sales will plummet. This is the vitamin that causes hair to grow.

This list illustrates a few things that will occur and does not mean to indicate this is all that will happen.

This stopping of the \$2 coupon reminds me of a story about two Texans. These Texans bought a whole bunch of watermelons for \$2, loaded them on their truck, drove to town and sold them all for \$1. They quickly realized they weren't making any money. They had a meeting to discuss their business strategy. After much debate they came to the conclusion; "We need a bigger truck."

Having told this story, I am not hesitant to ask the following tough questions:

1. If it was a good idea in 1996, why is it not a good idea in 2001.

2. Are there any other programs in existence, not generating revenue, but are still being continued?

3. Were any programs deleted as a result of the implementation of the \$2 coupon in 1996?

This is not a question, but it needs to be said — perhaps there should be some focus placed on the fiscal

management of funds since 1996.

The article went on to say we have to sacrifice now for rewards in the future. Does this mean coupons are returning in the future?

If a \$2 coupon is causing havoc, let me make some observations and see if I can't discover some revenue puzzles.

Why can you buy a bottle of water at the convenience store for 40 cents and the same bottle of water cost \$1 at the theater?

Where does that more than 100 percent profit go? And riddle me this: why can I go to the club and buy a domestic beer for \$1.50 and then go to the sixth hole on the golf course and get one just like it for \$1? One would think the marketing term of "place convenience" would play a part and the golf course beer would be more expensive.

When was the last time prices were raised at the golf course? Personally the prices currently being charged compare to prices in town are way to low.

Let me offer some suggestions.

I never claimed to be the sharpest pencil in the box, but we should look at need instead of nice to have programs. Marines and Sailors need to have haircuts. They do not need to go skiing. Why not let them keep the \$2 coupon and charge \$2 rental fee for skis. What about paintball? And why do they do towel laundry at the gym? Let the people bring their own towels from home.

I bet that would save a bundle of money in addition to saving a lot of the employees from puling about it.

You could charge money to get in the theater, but I understand it comes from a different pool of money, so I won't address that.

We need to reevaluate all of the nice to have programs, and some of them can be tied up with a twist tie and put on the curb for pickup.

I am sure, if we look around; we could find other ways of saving the coupons. Today it's haircut coupons — there is no telling what you'll lose tomorrow.

# Fixin' cars for free

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay  
Torii Teller Staff

The do-it-yourself services provided by the air station's Auto Hobby Shop can keep your car, and your finances, running smoothly.

Whether it's the brake pads getting worn, tires blowing out, oil going bad or any one of thousands of possibilities, eventually it seems everyone's car ends up in a repair shop.

Then comes the inevitable bill. But for service members stationed in Iwakuni, that repair bill may not be inevitable after all, because the Auto Hobby Shop can assist service and family members who want to work on their cars themselves.

"It's a place where you can learn to work on your vehicle," said Earl Clayborne, Auto Hobby Shop patron. "If there's something you don't know

how to fix, the staff there is glad to assist you in anyway they can."

The Auto Hobby Shop offers one-on-one instruction on all aspects of vehicle maintenance.

"Even if you don't know how to change your oil, don't worry. We will walk you through every step of the way," said Larry Scott, Auto Hobby Shop manager. "We're here to help you learn how to work on your car yourself."

The Auto Hobby Shop can help service members with everything from tune-ups and general maintenance to complete engine overhauls.

"Just about anything that they want to do on their vehicle, we can do it here," said Scott.

That's good news for service members.

"I'm really not much of the mechanic, and I was never too confident about working on my car myself,"

said Cpl. Lorenzo MacNeil, Auto Hobby Shop patron. "But I feel better about working on my car myself now. Even if it is just simple things, it helps to know, and you can save a lot of money that you would have wasted otherwise."

According to Scott, saving money from expensive mechanic bills is one of the primary motivations for service members who take advantage of the Auto Hobby Shop.

"My first thought was that I wanted to save money on having my car fixed," said MacNeil. "There's no better way to save money than by doing it yourself."

The Auto Hobby Shop is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 253-4049.



photo by Cpl. Joe Lindsay

*Petty Officer 1st class Roger Banks, maintenance leading petty officer, American Forces Network, works on his car at the Auto Hobby Shop.*

# Chasers learn to escort prisoners

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay  
Torii Teller Staff

Service members may eventually have to serve as a "chaser," regardless of Military Occupational Specialty.

Chasers are responsible for escorting prisoners to various appointments, and there is a class taught aboard the air station once a month that gives chasers the skills to do the job.

"The chaser program helps us fulfill our mission," said Gunnery Sgt. Marion Perry, Provost Marshal Office corrections supervisor. "Without chasers, it would be very difficult for us to get the prisoners to all of their appointments."

Those appointments include trips to medical, the barber shop, chow, and legal.

"We really rely on the chasers," said Cpl. Moises Lozano, corrections specialist and chaser instructor. "And because we rely on them so much, it is imperative that they are given the proper training."

The proper training comes in the form of professional military education, in which Marines learn a variety of skills related to prisoner

handling and transportation.

"The most important thing I try to instill in the students is to have a sense of confidence when escorting prisoners," said Lozano. "A lot of students show up to the class a little nervous or scared, but after completing the class, I know they have the skills to do the job well."

Many students may have been a little apprehensive at the beginning of the class, but hands on instruction gave them the confidence they needed.

"I was a little nervous coming in here, because I didn't know what to think about handling prisoners," said Lance Cpl. Michael Karigianis, chaser class graduate. "The class was straightforward though, and after having completed it, I know I can do the job."

The class teaches students how to properly shackle prisoners and how to behave in the presence of prisoners.

"First and foremost chasers must realize that this is for real," said Lozano. "Being a chaser is an important job and chasers must always act in a professional and military manner when escorting prisoners."

The class teaches chasers to treat prisoners with respect.

"A chaser has to look out for the welfare of the prisoner, while at the same time looking out for the best interest of the military," said Sgt. Alejandro Walker, former chaser.

According to Walker, the chaser program couldn't exist without the class.

"Without the class a person would be totally lost if they had to be a chaser," said Walker.

One of the most difficult situations chasers encounter arises when a chaser knows the prisoner.

"It is actually fairly common for a chaser to know a prisoner, especially on a small base like Iwakuni," said Lozano. "That can be an awkward situation, but the chaser is taught in the class to be fair and impartial to all prisoners, so it shouldn't make a difference if the chaser behaves as he was taught in class."

Although it may seem easy to lead someone around and ensure they get where they need to go, the newest chaser class graduates know there is more to being a chaser than some people may realize.

"Chasers always have to be aware of their surroundings," said Lozano. "They can't let their guard down for a minute."





*These steely instruments are not for torture, but rather simple,*



*Sergeant David Rooks, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 maintenance gets his teeth polished during his annual teeth cleaning.*



*Dentalman Michael Salinas, dental X-ray technician, prepares Hector Empeno, assistant administrative chief.*

## ***Dental bit***

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson  
Torii Teller Staff

In the past, a trip to the dentist meant drilling, filling or even pulling to correct a tooth problem, but times have changed and the idea of fixing the problem has shifted to the much less painful method of preventing it.

The 11th Dental Company Detachment here prides itself on its proactive approach in supporting the needs of the air station community.

“Dental health is as important as your mental and physical

health,” said Chief Petty Officer Danilo Ballesteros, dental clinic supervisor. “We don’t want to send Marines to the field with a problem.”

The readiness of Marines Sailors in Iwakuni to deploy is 98.3 percent, and has been held at that level for the past fiscal year, according to Ballesteros. The focus of Navy dentistry is the overall dental health index.

“The DHI is how many Marines and family members are class one or class two,” said 1st Officer 2nd class Steven Dels. The customer service desk leading to the petty officer. Those classes a

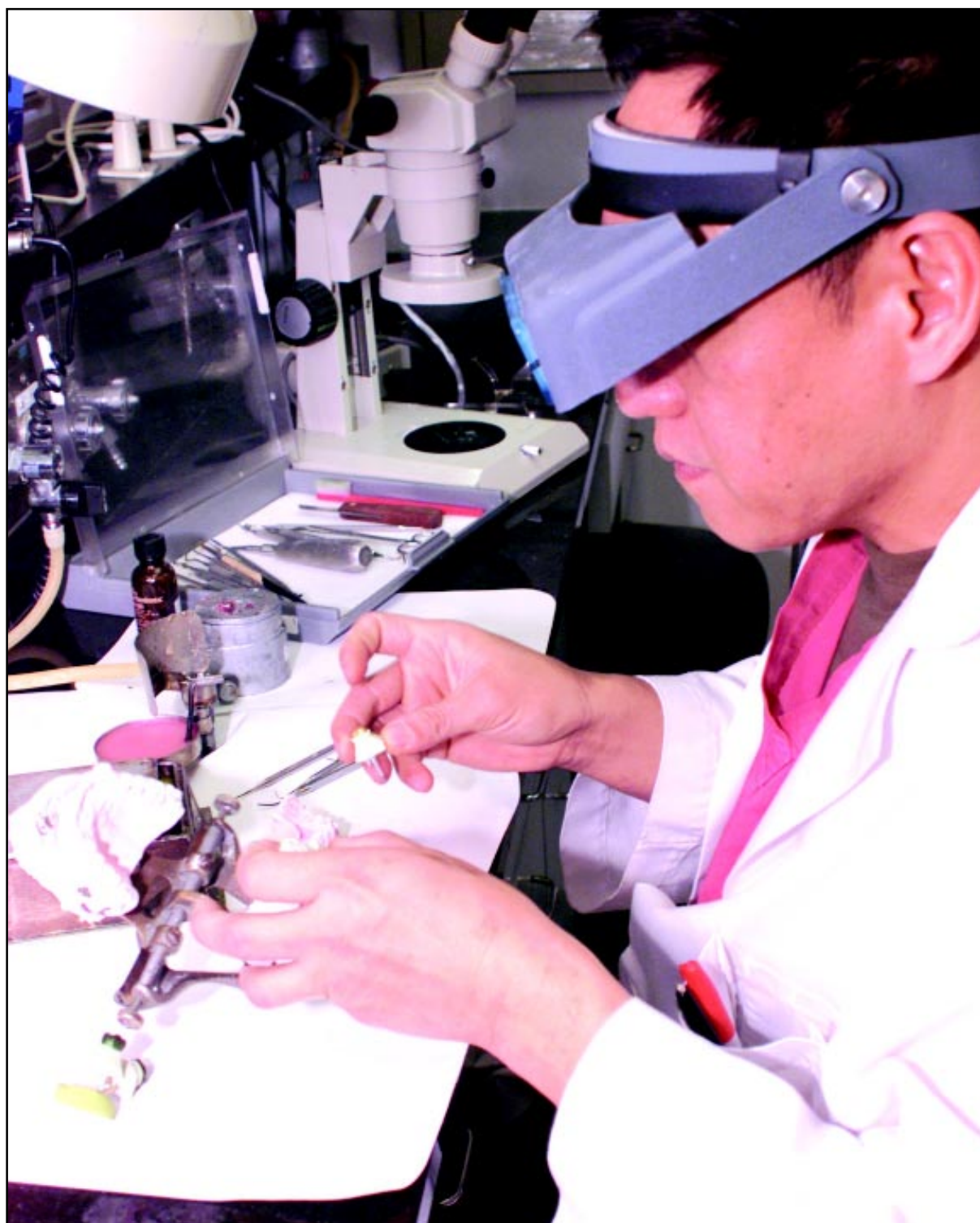




painless plaque removal.



to take an X-ray of Dental Technician 1st class



photos by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson

Dental Technician 2nd class Ariel Anselmo, prosthetic laboratory technician, inserts a mold of a tooth during the assembly of a pair of dentures in the prosthetics laboratory.

# tes down on readiness

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only required to come in for an annual exam and cleaning.

"If you are class two, there is still something that needs to be done," Delsie said. "Our goal is to make every Marine class one."

Since the Navy wide proactive program began more than one year ago, the percentage of class one Marines aboard the air station has increased from 38 to 68 percent.

To ensure the air station community can maintain their high level of readiness, the dental staff of eight doctors, 19 dental technicians and eight volunteers, are able to perform all aspects of dental health from a routine cleaning to

dental surgery.

Specialists are brought in from Okinawa every few months to tend to the special needs of patients, according to Ballesteros.

"We provide health care to all authorized beneficiaries," Ballesteros said. "Our access to care is equally distributed and is first come first serve."

Dental health may not be on the mind of everyone, so dental has taken up the task of putting out the word each month that class three and four individuals need to make an appointment.

"If a Marine is class three or four they are non-deployable,"

Delsie said. "We want to make sure everybody can deploy."

In past conflicts up to 20 percent of troops had to be pulled off the fighting lines due to dental related problems, according to Delsie.

Appointments should be made for a cleaning every six months to make sure no there are no problems developing that would pull a Marine from their job. Once an appointment is made, keeping it is essential, according to Ballesteros.

"If someone does have an appointment, they need to keep it," Ballesteros said. "It not only wastes money if they miss it, it

also keeps someone else from having an appointment."

If someone must cancel an appointment they should give at least 24 hours notice so the slot can be filled.

According to Ballesteros, there is one good reason why people should use the services available at dental.

"It's here and it's free, so take advantage of it," he said. "In the civilian world you have to pay for these services."

For more information on dental services, or to make an appointment, call 253-3331.

# Karaoke makes everyone a star

by Cpl. Joe Lindsay  
Torii Teller Staff

The Grammy Awards are over, but the winners aren't the only one's out there who can sing. Just ask anyone who's ever been to a karaoke box in Japan.

Karaoke shops are spread all over the country and consist of several private rooms, called boxes, that are equipped with a karaoke player, screens and microphones. They can hold anywhere from two people to a large party of would-be grammy nominees.

Karaoke literally means "empty orchestra," and is simply singing along to a music video which eliminates the original vocals and displays the lyrics on the bottom of the screen.

"It's a lot of fun to sing karaoke," said Lance Cpl. Addam Baker, postal clerk. "The boxes are a great place to get together with friends and have a good time."

Patrons make their song selections from books provided in the boxes, which provide numbers next to song titles.

"After you choose what song you want to sing, then all you have to do is enter in the numbers with remote control and in a few seconds the song appears on the screen. It's really easy," said Baker.

Karaoke was born in Kobe in the early 1970s, and the first known karaoke box appeared in 1984 in a rice field in the countryside of Okayama Prefecture. The

box was built from a converted freight car.

Since that time, karaoke has come a long way. Today, karaoke boxes consist of compartments made by partitioning and sound-proofing rooms in a building. Individuals can also order food and drinks in most of them.

"Karaoke is a major entertainment industry in Japan," said Hitomi Matsumoto. "Many families have karaoke sets in their homes, but prefer to go to the boxes, so that neighbors won't be disturbed."

Karaoke helps give people confidence in their singing.

"Karaoke can make you sound so much better than you really do," said Kayoko Hayakawa. "Even though I know I don't have a good singing voice, every time I sing karaoke, I feel like a music star."

Karaoke seems to evoke the same emotions of stardom in others as well.

"When I hold the microphone I feel like a professional singer," said Matsumoto. "If other people in the box give me a big hand, it makes me feel very happy and special."

"It doesn't matter if someone can sing good or not," said Mayumi Itoh. "Even if the karaoke singer can't keep a tune, it doesn't matter, because that can create laughter and make the party more fun."

Karaoke isn't just about fun. Social relations are an integral part of Japanese peoples lives and karaoke has a significant social function, said Heidi Min Zhang.

"The objective of karaoke is not



photo by Cpl. Joe Lindsay

*Mayumi Itoh and Kenso Tsukamoto sing a duet together at a karaoke box located in downtown Iwakuni.*

primarily to entertain yourself, but rather is a way to indulge yourself in the group and interact with each other," said Zhang. "No one ever goes to karaoke individually."

Indeed, Japan is largely considered a group society, yet karaoke seems to give people a sense of individuality while maintaining group harmony.

"Karaoke provides one of the few chances for Japanese people to show themselves in front of others with their own voice without being branded arrogant or self centered," said Zhang. "It fulfills the desire to gain credit as an individual without jeopardizing the need to be accepted by the whole group."

Karaoke boxes typically have songs in Japanese, English, German, Chinese, Tagalog and many other languages.

"I didn't learn English in school, I learned it from singing karaoke," said Kenso Tsukamoto.

In addition to helping one learn a foreign language, karaoke can also be a tool in bridging cultural gaps.

"I've met nearly all of my Japanese friends through karaoke," said Sgt. Christopher Holcombe, news director, American Forces Network. "It's a great way to meet and understand Japanese people because there aren't any barriers built up and it is such a relaxed atmosphere."

"I have met many American friends that I never would have met if it were not for karaoke," said Hayakawa.

From its humble beginnings in a freight car, karaoke has spread from a rice field in Japan to all over the world, and is even listed in the Oxford English Dictionary.

"It would be hard to imagine life in Japan without karaoke now," said Matsumoto. "Karaoke is as much a part of Japan as sushi and chopsticks."

## Out the gate

**Note:** Japanese who do not speak English may answer the phone numbers provided.

### Iwakuni Oyster Festival

The Iwakuni Oyster Festival will be held on Sunday at 10 a.m., at the Nakadori covered shopping area in downtown Iwakuni, near the Kokusai Movie Theater. Oysters served in a variety of ways are free. Event will be held, rain or shine.

### Residents/Firefighters' Get-together

Iwakuni Firefighters' Union will hold a get-

together on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Iwakuni Civic Hall. There will be demonstrations on fire extinguishers and fire truck exhibits. The Figher-fighters' band will perform at Iwakuni Civic Hall at 1:30 p.m. For more information call 22-0119.

### Doll Festival

The Hina Nagashi festival will be held along the Oze River in Otake City on Sunday, at 10 a.m. As a Japanese tradition, people let Hina dolls float in the river after the doll festival on Saturday. The event signifies evil spirits flowing away with the doll. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information call 08275-7-7111 extension 336.

### Meiji University Mandolin Club

Meiji University Mandolin Club will hold a concert Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Sinfonia Iwakuni's concert hall. Ticket costs 2,000 yen. Doors open at 6 p.m. For more information call 29-1600.





# Classified Ads

## Vehicles for sale

—1988 Subaru Leone, white, 4-door sedan, automatic, great AC/heater, AM/FM cassette, JCI till September 2001, dependable car, \$650/obo. Call Cpl. Ryan O'Hare at 253-5553 dwh or 253-7824 awh.

—1985 Toyota Soarer (Lexus), loaded w/extras, must sell soon, JCI till October 2001, \$1,000. Call John Kinley at 253-3525 dwh or 31-8435 awh.

—1988 Toyota Sprinter, 4-door sedan, auto, AM/FM cassette, PW/PDL, JCI till July 2001, \$400/obo. Call Rusty Reesman at 253-5777 dwh or 253-2065 awh.

—1991 Honda Prelude, 2-door, four wheel steering, 2.2L V tech, 5-speed, maroon color, JCI till December 2002, \$3,500. Call Staff Sgt. Wesley at 253-6019 or 253-2615.

—1992 Mitsubishi Pajero, six cylinder, five speed, CD player w/remote, convertible back top and sun roof, five new tires, four wheel drive, locking rear differential, new clutch, great condition, will JCI for two years once purchased, \$3,000. Call Sgt. Eddie Coffey at 253-3211 or 253-5805.

—1992 Mazda Presso Eunios, automatic, AM/FM cassette, six cylinder, sports car, in good condition, JCI till August 2002, \$2,500 obo. Call Staff Sgt. Coffey at 253-5601 or 253-5805.

—1988 Toyota Sprinter, four door, recent maintenance inspection completed, vehicle runs great, JCI till October 2001, \$650. Call Capt. Scott Davidson at 253-4079 dwh or 253-2726 awh.

—1989 Toyota Carina, white, four door, PW/PDL/PS, AC and heat, AM/FM cassette, runs great, JCI till April 2002, \$1,000 OBO. Call Laura or Tim at 21-7949 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

—1987 Honda Prelude, two door, power everything, sun roof, runs good, looks good, JCI till February 2003, \$1,700 OBO. Call 1st Lt. Pleak at 253-6445 dwh or 253-3668 awh.

—1989 Toyota Soarer, many features, JCI till September 2002, \$3,000 OBO. Call Hank Groomes at 253-6768 dwh or 21-7984 awh.

## Motorcycles

—1996 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic, 1500 cc, two year JCI, \$6,500 OBO. Call Hank Groomes at 253-6768 dwh or 21-7984 awh.

## Free

—Male/neutered dog free to a good home, just turned 1 year old, up to date on all shots, black and brown in color w/adorable floppy ears. Call U.S. Army Veterinary Services at 253-3588.

## Other items for sale

—Sony LD-VCD player, \$100; JVC SP-MXJ70 tuner, amplifier/karaoke, three CD changer, dual cassette deck, three speaker, never been used, still in original box, purchase price \$200, will sell for \$150; used tires, 145SR10, make offer. Call 253-6249 or 253-2106.

—Four Bose 901 speakers, walnut, one pair speaker pedestal, 901 equalizer, sold as one set, \$1,400 OBO; seven piece wall unit, large oak unit, \$1,500. Call Hank Groomes at 253-6768 dwh or 21-7984 awh.

—Two vented kerosene heaters, \$40 and \$25. Call John Kinley at 253-3525 dwh or 31-8435 awh.

—Jon Boat, 10½-foot, w/outboard motor, trolling motor, battery and battery charger, asking \$500. Call Master Sgt. Riker at 253-4505 dwh or 253-2045 awh.

## MCCS job openings

—Automation Clerk, Information Technology, NF-03, regular full time.

—Computer Technician, Information Technology, NF-02, regular full time.

—Retail Ops Assistant, Service Station, NF-02, regular full time.

—Procurement Clerk, Merchandising, NF-01, regular full time.

—Materials Handler, Warehouse, NA-06, flexible.

—Senior Sales Associate, Main Complex, NF-02, regular full time.

—Sales Associate/Cashier, Main Exchange, NF-01, regular full time and flexible.

—Sales Associate/Cashier, S/S 7 Day Store, NF-01, regular part time.

—Store Worker, Main Exchange, NA-02, regular full time and flexible.

—Sales Associate/Cashier, Auto Mini Mart, NF-01, regular full time, part time and flexible.

—Car Rental/Service Station Attendant, Service Station, NF-01, regular full time.

—Program Assistant, Child Development Center, CC-1, regular full time and flexible.

*(Pick up a job application in the MCCS Personnel Office, Crossroads Mall second floor, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or call 253-3030.)*

## HRO job openings

—Child Development Education Specialist, GS-1701-9/11, open until filled.

—Meatcutter Leader, WL-7407-07, open until filled.

—Sales Store Checker, GS-2091-03, open until filled.

—Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor(s), open until filled.

—Education Technician, GS-1702-04/05, open until filled.

—Interdisciplinary Engineer and Architect, GS-08XX-07/09/12, open until filled.

—Child Development Center Director, GS-1701-09, open until filled.

—Family Child Care Director, GS-1701-09, open until filled.

—Child Development Education Specialist, GS-1701-07, open until filled.

—Interdisciplinary (Psychologist/Social Worker) GS-018X-11, open until filled.

—Cable Splicer Supervisor (Communication), WS-2504-07, open until filled.

—Air Traffic Control Specialist (Terminal), open until filled.

*(For additional information and appropriate forms call CHRO, Building 360, Room 32 at 253-6828.)*

## To submit your ads or announcement ...

Torii Teller accepts ads/announcement for nonprofit organizations and groups only. Briefs run on space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Thursday. Torii Teller reserves the right to edit to fit space. To submit, stop by Building 360, Room 7 to fill out a form.

## Weekend's Weather

Today Saturday Sunday Monday



## Tide Table

	Low tide		High tide	
	Time	Size	Time	Size
March 2	7:32 a.m.	3.24	12:54 a.m.	9.11
	8:02 p.m.	1.90	1:35 p.m.	8.44
March 3	8:26 a.m.	4.31	2:35 a.m.	8.12
	9:02 p.m.	2.25	2:23 p.m.	7.77
March 4	9:50 a.m.	5.15	3:59 a.m.	7.81
	10:26 p.m.	2.36	3:35 p.m.	7.22
March 5	12:03 p.m.	5.13	5:47 a.m.	8.11
	---	---	5:18 p.m.	7.12
March 6	12:09 a.m.	1.85	7:06 a.m.	8.90
	1:15 p.m.	4.32	6:48 p.m.	7.69
March 7	1:21 a.m.	0.90	8 a.m.	9.72
	2:09 p.m.	3.33	7:54 p.m.	8.57
March 8	2:15 a.m.	-0.02	8:48 a.m.	10.37
	2:51 p.m.	2.35	8:48 p.m.	9.42



## Movie Schedule

### Friday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Dr. No (PG)

1 p.m./9 p.m. Throw Momma From The Train (PG-13)

11 p.m. Jackie Brown (R)

### Saturday

10 a.m./7 p.m. From Russia With Love (NR)

1 p.m./9 p.m. Supernova (PG-13)

11 p.m. The Long Riders (R)

### Sunday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Bass Pro Fishing And Hunting (PG)

1 p.m./9 p.m. Miracle (NR)

11 p.m. High Fidelity (R)

### Monday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Thunderball (G)

1 p.m./9 p.m. The Nutty Professor 2 (PG-13)

11 p.m. Red Dawn (R)

### Tuesday

10 a.m./7 p.m. You Only Live Twice (PG)

1 p.m./9 p.m. He Said, She Said (PG-13)

11 p.m. Rushmore (R)

### Wednesday

10 a.m./7 p.m. Diamonds Are Forever (PG)

1 p.m./9 p.m. Blast From The Past (PG-13)

11 p.m. Scream 2 (R)

### Thursday

10 a.m./7 p.m. The Living Daylights (PG)

1 p.m./9 p.m. Coyote Ugly (PG-13)

11 p.m. Mystery Alaska (R)

## Sakura Theater

### Friday

7 p.m. Double Take

10 p.m. Antitrust

### Saturday

4 p.m. Rugrats In Paris

7 p.m. Double Take

10 p.m. Antitrust

### Sunday

4 p.m. Rugrats in Paris

7 p.m. Antitrust

### Monday

7 p.m. Double Take

### Tuesday

7 p.m. Rugrats in Paris

### Wednesday

7 p.m. Antitrust

### Thursday

Closed

## Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G)

(85 minutes)

Based on the popular TV series Rugrats, this animated movie Rugrats in Paris: The Movie, features a group of zany toddlers who, by chance, get to travel to Paris. With fun music and fast-moving graphics balancing out the obligatory jokes about diapers, babies' butts, and poop, Rugrats in Paris: The Movie, will thrill fans of these wild toddlers.

## Antitrust 2001 (PG-13)

Rated PG-13 for some violence and brief language. (115 minutes)

In this gripping drama from director Peter Howitt, a young computer programming expert takes a job with a high technology company. He quickly learns that the firm has some fishy policies and a shady way of dealing with its antitrust issues, and realizes that he is trapped in a deceptive, double-crossing business world.

## Double Take 2001 (PG-13)

Rated PG-13 for violence and language. (95 minutes)

In Double Take, two fugitives come together under strange circumstances. One man, framed in a Mexican money laundering scheme, steals a passport from a seemingly innocent man and runs for it. Unfortunately, the owner of the passport is a government official with a long list of law infringements who is also on the run. Together, the pair must find a solution to escape.

This schedule is submitted by the Sakura Theater and is subject to change. Comments can be directed to MCCS at 253-4003.

## Iwakuni's Theaters

### Kokusai:

March 3 - 9  
**"Heart of Woman"** -  
 10:30 a.m., 2:50 p.m.,  
 7:20 p.m.  
**"Pay it Forward"** -  
 12:35 p.m., 5:05 p.m.,  
 (Sat. only) 9:35 p.m.

### New Central I:

March 3 - 9  
**"Cast Away"** -  
 10:05 a.m., 12:50 p.m.,  
 3:35 p.m., 6:20 p.m.,  
 (Sat. only) 9:05 p.m.

### New Central II:

March 3 - 9  
**"Unbreakable"** -  
 11:55 a.m., 2 p.m.,  
 6 p.m. (Sat. only) 10 p.m.

### New Central III:

March 3 - 9  
 No English Movies

## Education



### Test Schedule

#### Every Tuesday/Friday

- College Level Examination Program
- DANTES Subject Standardized Test

**Feb. 26** - Defense Language Proficiency Test

- Defense Language Aptitude Battery

**Feb. 28** - Armed Forces Classification Test

There is no fee for military personnel; civilians pay \$46 for CLEP, \$27 for DANTES, \$38 for ACT and \$39 for SAT. Call Education Services at 253-3855 for more information or stop by the Community Services Building, Room 101.

### DoDEA Sprint Testing

As part of ongoing efforts to measure your child's academic progress, a system wide test will be given this spring for Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. Testing dates are Monday through March 9. Testing will begin promptly at 8 a.m. For more information call CJ O'Hanrahan at 253-4119.

## Community



### Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous open meetings are held on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays and Sundays at 7 p.m. Closed meetings are held on each Monday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday at 7 p.m. All meetings are on the second floor of Building 497. Call 43-4814.

### Medical Clinic Health Promotions

Tobacco Cessation Courses will be held on March 21, 23, 28, and 30. Cholesterol, nutrition and hypertension counseling will also be offered on an individual basis by calling the Branch Medical Clinic at 253-3266.

### Branch Medical Clinic Reduced Staff

Due to operational readiness training, the Branch Medical Clinic will have reduced staff available for appointments on March 13, 14 and 15. For more information contact Lt. Tim Meyer at 253-5652.

### Tuition Assistance for Term IV

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is offering tuition assistance for term IV at University of Maryland and Central Texas College, to spouses of Navy and Marine Corps personnel. Applications are being accepted until March 16. Paperwork and interview must be completed by March 16. Stop by Building 360, Room 35, to pick up your spouse tuition aid packet and schedule your appointment. Please bring a current LES, identification card and completed paperwork to the interview. Call 253-5311.

### Navy/Marine Corps Relief Fund Drive

The annual Navy/Marine Corps Relief Active Duty Fund Drive will kick off Monday and run

through April 6. There will be \$250 weekly prizes and nine other prizes including a \$2,000 grand prize. Raffle is open to all Status of Forces Agreement individuals. For more information contact your unit representative.

### DRMO Sealed Bid

DRMO will hold a sealed bid sale on Thursday. The property can be inspected at DRMO starting Monday. Bids must be received by 8 a.m. on Thursday. Property includes computer equipment, furniture, military clothing, toys, FAX machine, tires, boat, and vehicles. For more information call 253-3982 or 253-4089.

### Toys and Cloths Drive

Toys and cloths for children ages 2 to 15 years old are being sought for donation to a local orphan. Collection will take place until 9 a.m. March 15. Items can be dropped off at the station Chapel. This is sponsored by the Iwakuni Boy Scouts. Call John Pross at 253-2882.

### Mothers of Preschoolers

The Mothers of Preschoolers meets the second and fourth Thursday of every month, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the chapel Annex, Yujo Hall. Call Karen Lyons at 253-2258.

### Marine Corps Community Services

#### Southside Barber Change

Effective Sunday, the Southside Barber Shop will be closed on Sundays. For more information, call Mr. Kane at 253-5641.

#### Auto Mini Mart Hours Trial

On a trial basis through March 31, the Auto Mini Mart, which opens at 6:30 a.m., will stay open until 9 p.m. Sunday, 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and midnight Friday and Saturday. Special T's will remain open until 9 p.m. Sunday and 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

#### Savings Workshop

Financial Management offers a savings and investment workshop Wednesday, 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. For more information call 253-6352.

#### Childbirth Refresher

Expectant mothers who want to review child birth, should attend this refresher class Thursday, 1:30-4 p.m. Call 253-6553.

#### Volunteer Victim Advocates

Family Advocacy is seeking volunteers to work with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. For more information call 253-4526 or stop by Room 210 in Building 411.

#### Child Development Program

If you want to provide child development services in your home, plan to attend this training program Monday - Wednesday, 8 a.m. until noon. For requirements, call Angela Riddle at 253-3451.

#### Résumé Workshop

The Career Resource Management Center will hold a basic résumé workshop Tuesday, 1-3

p.m., in Room 217 of the Community Services Building. Call 253-6439 for more information.

### Interviewing Skills

Job seekers are invited to sharpen their interviewing skills Wednesday, 9-11 a.m. in Building 411, Room 217.

### Effective Communication

Learn how to communicate better at this seminar, Tuesday, 11:45 a.m., in Building 411, Room 115. Call 253-3737 for details.

### Gong Show & Dance Party

The Single Marine Program will hold a Gong Show and Dance Party March 10, 7 p.m., in the Club Iwakuni ballroom. SOFA Status patrons and guests 18 and up may attend. There is a \$4 charge. Sign up at the Hornet's Nest to be a judge or bouncer or to participate as talent in the show. Call 253-3585 for details.

### MCFTB March Classes

Marine Corps Family Team Building will hold Key Volunteer basic training March 19-21, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. A LINKS session for spouses of Marines will be held March 17, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Child care is available, and reservations are required. Call 253-3754.

### RAO Volunteers Needed

Iwakuni's Retired Activities Office has immediate openings for volunteers to maintain daily office operations, coordinate staff recruitment and training, prepare community newsletters, and coordinate command-sponsored retiree events. Interested persons should call Mr. Tony Elliott, 253-6250 or visit the RAO in Room 201 of the Community Services Building.

## Chapel Services



### Chapel News

(1) Chapel Annex (2) Marine Memorial Center

#### Roman Catholic

<b>Saturday</b>	5:30 p.m.	Mass	(2)
<b>Sunday</b>	9 a.m.	Mass	(2)

#### Protestant

<b>Saturday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Seventh Day Adventist	(1)
<b>Sunday</b>	10 a.m.	Church of Christ	(2)
	10:30 a.m.	General Service	(2)
	noon	United Pentecostal Service	(2)

#### Latter Day Saints

<b>Sunday</b>	12:30 p.m.	Service	(1)
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#### Jewish

<b>Friday</b>	6 p.m.	Shabat	(2)
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For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/Chapel activity call the station Chapel at 253-5218. For information on Jewish services call Mark Zeid at 082-231-4008 after 6 p.m. or call the station Chapel.



## Sports Briefs

### Main Gym Closure

The Main Gym Sports Courts and Penny Lake sports fields will be closed Monday and Tuesday for the annual base non-combatant evacuation exercise.

### Youth Baseball

Youth baseball registration is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the Main Gym. Youths 5- to 14-years-old may participate. Call 253-3239.

### Women's Varsity Softball

Status of Forces Agreement women age of 16 and older may participate. A team meeting and tryouts is scheduled for Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Gym. Call 253-5777.

### Nutrition and Fitness

In honor of National Nutrition Month, MCCS Fitness holds a Nutrition and Fitness

for Lifetime course March 10 and 24 from 10 a.m. to noon, in the Main Gym. Topics include healthy cooking, strength training, and low fat eating on the air station. Call 253-5051 to register. The fee is \$5.

### Season Hours Change

Hours change at Torii Pines Golf Course starting March 10. New hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. On weekends and holidays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The driving range operates everyday, 6:30 to 11 p.m.

### Invitational Racquetball

Athletics will hold a spring invitational racquetball tournament on March 10 in the Main Gym. For more information call 253-5777.

### Wallyball Tournament

Athletics will hold a wallyball tournament Saturday in the Main Gym. Call 253-5777.

## The Scoreboard

### Over 30 Basketball Season

MWSS-171	70
Facilities	54
No Names	60
Iz Mo	39



# 'King Pins' stike at Southside Bowling Center

by Cpl. Ryan O'Hare  
Torii Teller Staff

Six days a week, finely tuned athletes, their friends and families gather wearing funny looking shoes, hurling large spheres, slapping high fives, and jumping for joy as 10 helpless little pins get smashed together in a wild display of destruction.

The South-Side Bowling Alley offers air station residents a place to let down their hair and have a great time.

"It's a fun, relaxed atmosphere where everyone can come together and have some fun," said David Lyons, bowling alley employee. "Everybody who comes in here seems to have a smile on their face when they leave."

The object is to knock down 10 pins placed in triangular formation.

In order to accomplish this amazing feat, each competitor must hurl a 6 to 16 pound ball, knocking down as many wooden targets as possible in two tries.

Although some are more serious "athletes" than others, each must choose wisely from the rack of colorful orbs before attempting to slide one into the pocket.

Bowling a strike seems to be on everyone's mind once they step up to roll. As the ball slides off the hand, players seem to mentally

coach the ball down the wooden lane, adding some encouraging words as well.

"I like to come in here and let out some stress," said Petty Officer 1st class Eric Woodin, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron maintenance technician. "It's a good feeling to chuck that ball as hard as you can down the lane."

According to Lyons, most people enjoy bowling because it's an inexpensive way to spend a few hours having a great time.

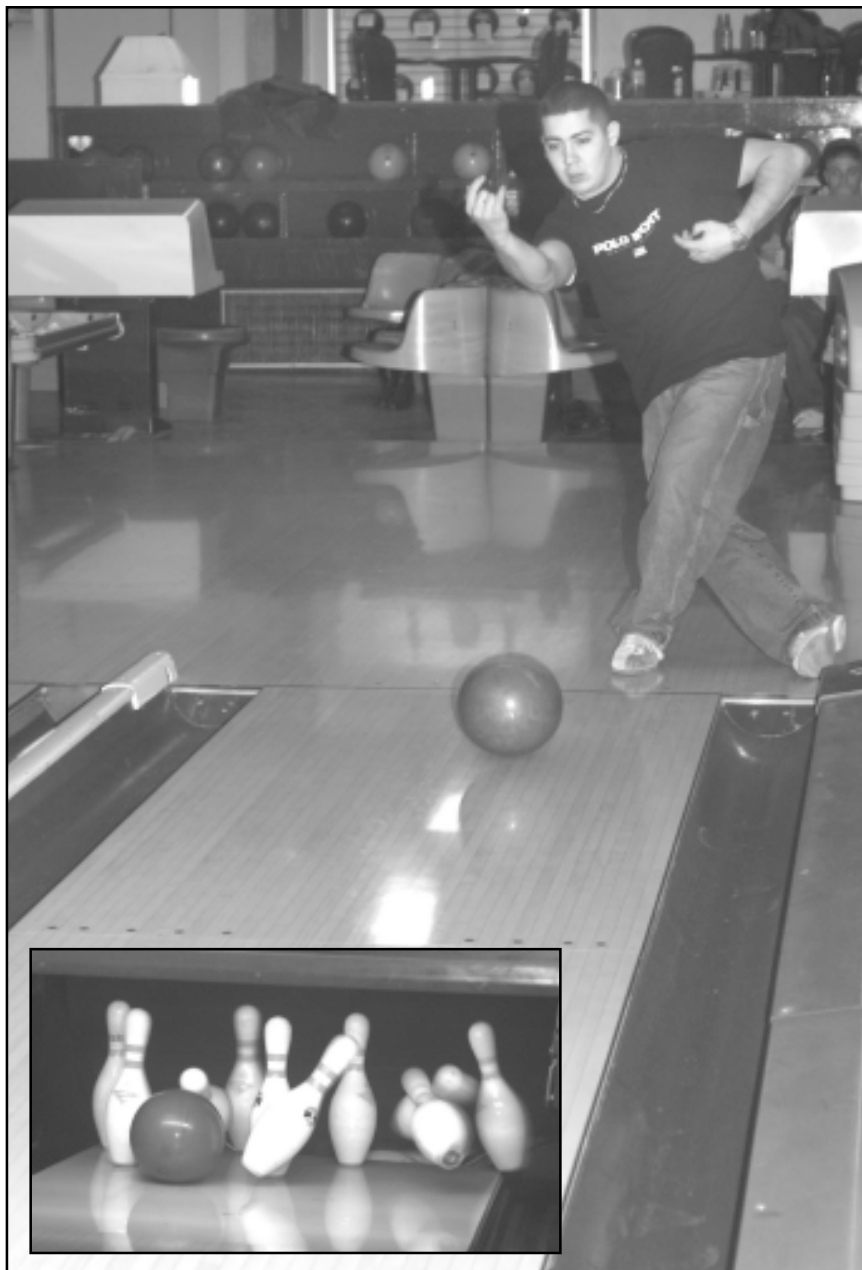
The bowling center also features a variety of specials including student discounts, moonlight bowling and red pin games, said Mike Gold, Southside Bowling Center manager.

Because of 'intense' physical demands of the sport, the bowling alley also offers a full-service kitchen to refuel athletes in between frames.

"I like the food they serve here," said A.J. Robles, postal clerk. "It's nice to be able to grab a burger and still be able to play."

So whether it's a birthday party or the desire for heart pounding, physical competition, the bowling alley is the place to go.

"If you haven't been in here, you're really missing out," said Woodin. "It's a good atmosphere, and everybody's having a good time."



photos by Cpl. Ryan O'Hare

*A.J. Robles throws a nasty hook on the ball, spinning it down the lane for a strike (inset), during an afternoon at the Southside Bowling Center.*

# Vets retire Facilities, 70-54

by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson  
Torii Teller Staff

The Marine Wing support Squadron 171 Vets ran Facilities into the ground 70-54 during the first game of the over 30 basketball season Feb. 26.

"They had the numbers, the height and the quality of players on their team," said Joel Abad, Facilities assistant coach. "There are some guys on the team who are over 30, and they're still quick."

During every time out it seemed the Vets changed their entire team. With 12 players to choose from there was never a tired Vet on the floor.

"We overwhelmed them with fresh legs," said Kevin Brooks, Vets guard. "We ran the other team because we've got more bodies."

The six players of Facilities did not give up despite being out manned, and stayed on the heels of the Vets with a 35-22 score at the half.

The passing, fast breaks and ball stealing by both teams sped up as the game went on, and it wasn't uncommon to see a ball snatched away, thrown long down the court and put in its place for 2 points.

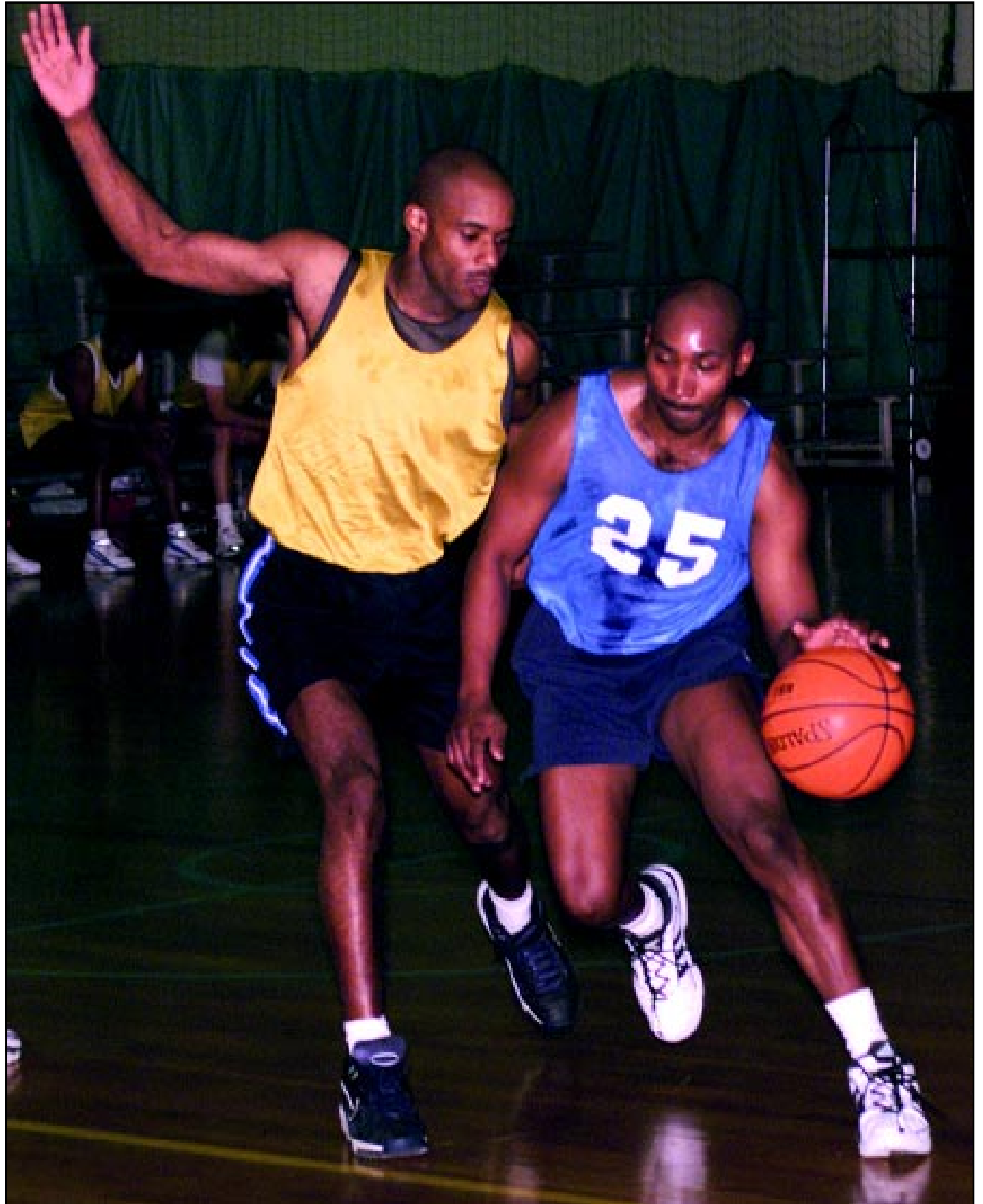
During the second half the Vets pulled away with the lead 62-48 with 5 minutes on the clock. Facilities may have been on their way to a loss, but they were not about to stop chasing them.

"Even though we were the losing team, we kept trying to catch up, so we didn't loose by a trillion points," Abad said. "They had good teamwork, and getting the ball away from them was really hard."

Facilities as well at the Vets sent an equal amount of shots to the basket from outside the three-point line as they did from beneath the rim. The speed that the Vets put the ball in the net was just a little more frequent than Facilities, giving them the upper hand.

Despite a 15-point Vet lead with 2 minutes left on the clock, Facilities fought until the very end.

This is only game one, of five, for both teams who will meet again during the season. The playoffs



photos by Cpl. Kurt Fredrickson

*Jimmy Dennard, Facilities guard, tries to drive the lane against Vets' guard Terry Wells.*

are scheduled to be held March 21. Currently there are five teams in the league. Games are held in the Main Gym, start at 6 p.m. and are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

"We're just out here to have fun," Abad said. "The over 30 season gives the older guys the chance to play and show their skills."

**RIGHT:** Joel Abad, Facilities assistant coach, steals the ball from Robert Markee, Vets guard.

